

December 2014 Newsletter

Our Lady of the Wayside National School

Dates for your diary

Fri 19th Dec 2014 School closes at 12 noon for Christmas holidays

Mon 05th Jan 2015 School re-opens following Christmas holidays

Fri 27th Feb 2015 Confirmation

Sat 09th May 2015 First Holy Communion



Message from Ms. Carson:

We sadly said goodbye to Ms. Corcoran at the mid-term break after six and a half years of service to Our Lady of the Wayside. She has been appointed to the inspectorate and we wish her well in her new position.

As you are aware by now, I have left the infant classroom and have taken up the position of Principal. I would

like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your work and support to Our Lady of the Wayside and to wish all our children, their families and members of staff a very Happy Christmas and happiness and good health in the New Year.

Nollaig faoi shéan is faoi mhaise dhaoibh go léir.

Christmas in our school

Blessing of the Crib:

On Monday the 8th Dec Fr. Andrew came to the school to bless our crib. A representative from each class placed a statue in the crib.

A group of musicians played some Christmas carols for us and we all joined in with the favourites "Silent Night" and "Away in a Manger". 6th class provided us with two Christmas songs in Irish.



Decorating our Christmas Tree:

All the children in our school are invited to make a Christmas decoration from reusable and recyclable materials for our Christmas tree. The tree is on display in the main corridor. Parents are very welcome to come in and see it.



Christmas Plays:

Many classes are performing Christmas plays and the hall is very busy these days with all the rehearsals.

Santa Walk

The annual Santa walk took place in Djouce Woods on Sunday 7th Dec. A great day was had by all. Thank you to the Parents' Association who put so much work into the arrangements for the day. We were blessed with the weather.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent teacher meetings took place on the 10th and 17th of November. Thank you all for coming to these meetings. It is important that we all work together for the good of our children.



Library:

Watch this space! Have you noticed our new couch and cushions? There is a new look coming to the library. Thank you to the ladies from the Parents' Association who are on the library committee.



Do This in Memory Masses

The children in Second Class have begun their "Do this in Memory" Masses each month in preparation for their First Penance and Communion next year. All the Masses are prepared by parents on a special committee.

They are doing a wonderful job organising each Mass and have been coming into the classroom to teach the children their songs. This makes the "Do this in Memory" programme very relevant and enjoyable for the children. It really helps them to understand that they are special members of their parish community.

Cillian O'Leary, Sarah Mulhall and Sarah Sherman from Ms. Lyster's and Emily Coughlan and Max Keegan from Ms. O'Doherty's did the Prayers of the Faithful up on the altar.

Ms. O'Doherty's class sat on the right and Ms. Lyster's class sat on the left.

On the 16/11/14 we had a Do This in Memory Mass.

We made some special leaves for the Memory Mass and put them in a basket.

Ms. Lyster's class sang "We Come to You Lord Jesus"

Ms. O'Doherty's class sang "This is the Day".



Shoebox appeal

A huge 'thank you' to all who contributed to the Team Hope Shoe Box Appeal.



Website

Our Website is constantly being updated. Each class have an area and update it regularly. Please check it out at www.ourladyofthewaysidens.ie

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Intel Mini Scientist

Ms. Gannon’s fifth class and Ms. Dunne’s sixth class entered the **Intel Mini Scientist**. Children explore science through project based learning and present it in an exhibition. Our exhibition was held in our school hall on Friday December 5th. Children worked on their projects as individual or in groups of up to four people. They each came up with their own scientific investigation.

Each group had their own project presented in a project book and visual display which the judge questioned them about. The Intel judge viewed all the amazing projects and was very impressed. A winner was selected from each class and they will represent us in the National Final in Lexlip on Friday December 12th.

5th Class Winners:

Colin Hayes, Josh Palmer, James Dunn and David Earls: How much electricity do common household items use?

Leah Fleming, Nicole O’Neill and Gemma Coffey:

How many calories does an average 8 – 13 year old consume a day?

Louis Jolliffe: Why do people not like their voice on video?

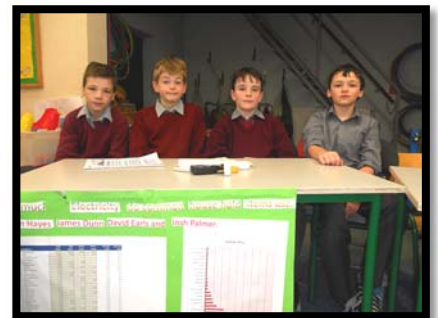
6th Class Winners:

Holly Kelly: How does music affect people?

Stephen O’Connor: How does tidal wave energy work?

Emer Leahy and Cliona Moore: How do nightmares affect you?

Aoife Cahill and Emma Soraghan: Are we eating too much?



RSE Programme

Mrs. Gemma Rowley came to speak to 6th class parents in our school about relationships and sexuality. The children attend 3 workshops in school given by Mrs. Rowley. A big thank you to Gemma for the great work she did. This programme/workshops were funded by the school development fund and was enjoyed by all.

Cycling

Our Cycling Course starts on Friday, 16th January 2015 for 6th Class. Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council have contracted a company called “Cycle Safety” to run the cycling courses.



Cycle Safety will come to Our Lady of the Wayside and provide bicycles and helmets for all participants. This is a very important activity for the children of 6th Class to partake in, both in the interests of their safety on the roads and also for healthy exercise.

BT Young Scientist

Ms. Gannon’s fifth class will be presenting their project:

‘Does age or sex influence your reflexes? Boys versus Girls! Old versus Young!’

Over the last few weeks they have been busy testing children in the school in Junior Infants, second class and sixth class to get a mix of ages. They also tested parents, grandparents, teachers and SNAs.



Participants’ reflexes were tested in a series of tests involving Bop it, ruler test and other reflex tests. They will be presenting their findings at the RDS on Thursday January 8th.



Our Lady of the Wayside NS Parents’ Association

Class Rep	Phone no.	Class
Bronagh Kenny	087 1301602	6 th Ms. Dunne
Catriona d’Alton	086 2696900	5 th Mrs. Gannon
Carmel O’ Riordan	086 4050755	4 th Ms. Duckenfield
Jean Elliffe	086 8228272	4 th Mr. Kenna
Eleanor Monaghan	087 8398344	3 rd Mr. McGreil
Nika Gallagher	087 7648712	2 nd Ms. O’Doherty
Sally Ann Mitchell	086 3995638	2 nd Ms. Lyster
Jean Elliffe	086 8228272	1 st Ms. Galavan
Eleanor Monaghan	087 8398344	1 st Ms. Jones
Anita Wolfe	086 8448860	Snr Inf Ms. Hurley
Carmel O’ Riordan	086 4050755	Jnr Inf Mrs. Mohally
Ger Carroll	086 8476170	Jnr Inf Ms. Galvin
Board of Management Representatives		
Darrell Moore		Father Representative
Kathryn Bennett		Mother Representative



The Late Late Toy Show

Jack Massey from fifth class appeared on the Late Late Toy Show. He sent in a video last October. On Halloween he went into RTÉ for an audition. He was selected to review books for the Book section of the Late Late Toy Show. He went in for a dress rehearsal at 12 that day and returned at 9pm to review the books. The books he reviewed were 'Moone Boy' by Chris O'Dowd, 'The Parent Agency' by David Baddiel and 'Beyond the Stars', a book of short stories. He had an amazing evening and the whole school was cheering him on. He loved the experience and will never forget it. We are so proud of Jack!



Teacher News:

Teachers have engaged in Continual Professional Development in the area of Mathematics during the month of November and additional Maths equipment has been made available.



Concert Hall visit:

Classes from 6th, 5th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st went on their annual trip to the National Concert Hall for the Music in the Classroom Series. A great time was had by all.

MUSIC IN THE CLASSROOM



Enrolments for Secondary Schools

The following schools have advised us in relation to their enrolment dates:

Oatlands College:

For academic year starting 2017 – 20th March 2015

St. Benildus College:

For academic year starting 2018 – 13th March 2015

Enrolments 2016 onwards – Our Lady of the Wayside NS

Please note that for the academic years 2016 onwards all siblings need to be added to our application list as soon as possible. Application Forms are available from Helen in the school office.





Safety Issues

In the interests of safety, you are again reminded not to park on the yellow markings outside the school or on the footpath at the main road blocking the path for pedestrians with buggies.



Children should enter and leave the school by the school pedestrian gate not by the staff car park gate. Only children accompanied by an adult may walk through the Church grounds.



Preparations for the harsh winter weather!!!

Hopefully we won't experience any severe weather or heavy snowfalls this winter. However, in the event of a bad spell of winter weather, we will endeavour to keep the school open.



The school website (www.ourladyofthewaysidens.ie) will be updated regularly with school arrangements. Parents will also receive text messages informing them of any changes to the normal school opening times.

If snowfall or very icy conditions occur, please remember that it is acceptable to drop your children to school later than 8.50am, if you are in a position to do so. This will ease the traffic flow and ensure a safer environment for all.



If any parents are available to help clear footpaths of snow during the school week (particularly mornings), would they please leave their names and contact numbers with Helen in the school office.